

Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SS-15 AID-20 CU-04 SCS-03 SCA-01

HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01

USIA-12 PRS-01 SNM-02 BNDD-05 JUSE-00 TRSE-00 SCI-06

RSR-01 /131 W

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P 170855 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1310

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SNAR, NL, UNESCO

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: PROJECT WEATHERWANE

SUMMARY: WE UNDERSTAND THAT ADVANCE PARTY FOR UNESCO PROJECT WEATHERVANE, PROVIDING FOR ASSISTANCE TO YOUNG AMERICAN DRUG ABUSERS, MAY BE ARRIVING IN NETHERLANDS SHORTLY IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSAL TO SET UP SUMMER PROJECT IN AMSTERDAM. HEALTH MINISTRY OFFICIAL, WHOSE ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED IN THIS PROJECT, HAS ASKED THAT COMMENTS IN PARAS 3 AND 4 BELOW BE PASSED TO U. S. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO.

END SUMMARY

1. ON MAY 10 AMBASSADOR MIDDENDORF RECEIVED LETTERS DATED MAY 3 AND 4 FROM MR. JOHN E. UPSTON, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF U. S. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO, CONCERNING PROJECT WEATHERVANE. PART OF PROJECT WOULD INVOLVE COUNSELORS WORKING IN AMSTERDAM THIS SUMMER TO DEAL WITH DRUG PROBLEMS OF YOUNG AMERICANS. IN EARLIER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN MR. MARK COHEN, ALSO WITH U. S. NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO, MR. ROBERT SAMSOM OF HEALTH MINISTRY HAD INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT HIS

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MINISTRY MIGHT BE PREPARED TO MAKE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION AND OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR PROJECT IF U. S. NATIONAL COMMISSION WAS ABLE TO RAISE SOME MONEY OF ITS OWN. IN MAY 4 LETTER TO AMBASSADOR, MR. UPSTON SAID THAT COMMISSION HAD RAISED \$18,500 AND ASKED FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH SAMSOM TO DETERMINE WHETHER HEALTH MINISTRY COULD PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS AND LOCATE FREE SPACE IN AMSTERDAM FOR USE OF PROJECT WORKERS. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED IN LETTER DATED MAY 11 THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE HAPPY TO ASSIST. SINCE DISPATCH OF THAT LETTER, HOWEVER, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT ADVANCE PARTY OF PROJECT WEATHERVANE MAY BE ARRIVING IN NETHERLANDS AS EARLY AS THIS WEEK.

3. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH SAMSOM ON MAY 14 AND HE PROVIDED US WITH LENGTHY COMMENTS ON PROJECT WEATHERVANE ON MAY 16 WITH REQUEST THAT THEY BE PASSED ON TO MR. UPSTON URGENTLY. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT HIS COMMENTS BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE. WE ARE SENDING COPY OF FULL TEXT OF LETTER DIRECT TO MR. UPSTON, WITH COPY ALSO TO EUR/ WE, BUT WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS OF SAMSOM' S LETTER COULD BE CONVEYED ASAP TO MR. UPSTON OR MR. COHEN, BOTH OF WHOM APPARENTLY HAVE OFFICE OR MAILING ADDRESS IN DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

3. BEGIN QUOTE:

A. PROJECT WEATHERVANE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN CONCEIVED WITHOUT RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN AMSTERDAM. IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE OPENING OF THE ENVISAGED FACILITY WOULD HAVE ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT UPON THE TARGET POPULATION. IN VIEW OF THE ALREADY FUNCTIONING ORGANIZATION.

B. STREET- LEVEL SPACE FOR THE WEATHERVANE FACILITY IS PROBABLY NOT AVAILABLE AT SHORT NOTICE. IT IS THOUGHT THAT FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE SPOT MIGHT TAKE ABOUT A MONTH OR MORE.

C. APPARENTLY NO THOUGHTS HAVE BEEN SPENT ON HIGHLY IMPORTANT PROBLEMS, SUCH AS:

- AN ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS NOT TAKEN CARE OF BY THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS;
- THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH SECOND ECHELON SERVICES, WHICH COULD ACCOMMODATE REFERRALS;
- THE PROVIDING OF CONTINUED SERVICES TOTHE AFFECTED PERSONS AFTER SEPTEMBER 14, THE DATE ON WHICH THE PROJECT IS SUPPOSED TO FINISH. END QUOTE.

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4. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, SAMSOM STRESSED THAT WHAT HE HAD IN MIND, IN EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH COHEN CONCERNING HEALTH MINISTRY INTEREST IN PROJECT WEATHERVANE, WAS CONCENTRATION OF PROJECT' S EFFORT ON PROBLEM DRUG USERS WHO REMAIN ON IN NETHERLANDS LONG AFTER SUMMER SEASON AND ARE TREATED IN NETHERLANDS HEALTH FACILITIES. SAMSON SAID HEALTH MINISTRY IS

NOT INTERESTED IN SHORT- TERM PROJECT FOCUSING ONLY ON SUMMER VISITORS, PARTICULARLY AS AMSTERDAM MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION (DRUG INFORMATION AND SERVICE CENTER), IS ALREADY WELL ESTABLISHED AND HIGHLY CAPABLE IN DEALING WITH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE TEMPORARY VISITORS. IN CONCLUSION, SAMSOM SAID IN HIS LETTER THAT HE SAW NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ADVISE MR. UPSTON THAT IN HIS VIEW PROJECT WEATHERVANE SHOULD BE INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

5. WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED IF ADVANCE PARTY IS PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN NETHERLANDS SHORTLY. IF SO, WE URGE THAT LEADER OF PARTY CONTACT EMBASSY NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER.

MIDDENDORF

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